

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 0264

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: BQG, WB, UR
SUBJECT: RADIO MOSCOW ATTACKS GREEN WEEK

SUMMARY. IN BROADCAST JANUARY 31 RADIO MOSCOW ATTACKED INTERNATIONAL GREEN WEEK IN BERLIN ON GROUNDS THAT GREEN WEEK WAS BEING USED TO DEMONSTRATE THAT WEST BERLIN WAS PART OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. FIVE SOVIET SOLDIERS CAUSED INCIDENT AT GREEN WEEK WHEN THEY ENTERED FAIR AREA WITHOUT PAYING. END SUMMARY.

1. RADIO MOSCOW IN BRIEF BROADCAST JANUARY 31 CRITICIZED THE HOLDING OF THE INTERNATIONAL GREEN WEEK IN WEST BERLIN. RADIO MOSCOW NOTED THAT AT FIRST GLANCE, THE GREEN WEEK APPEARS TO BE A NORMAL INTERNATIONAL FAIR WITH MANY INTERESTING EXHIBITIONS. ON CLOSER LOOK, HOWEVER, THE EXHIBITION PROVED TO BE LESS AN INFORMATIVE AND PRESENTATIONAL EVENT AND MORE A DEMONSTRATIVE EFFORT TO PROVE THAT WEST BERLIN IS PART OF THE FRG. RADIO MOSCOW COMPLAINED PARTICULARLY THAT GREEN WEEK
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WAS OFFICIALLY OPENED BY FRG AGRICULTURE MINISTER JOSEF ERTL.

2. RADIO MOSCOW ALSO COMPLAINED THAT THE EXHIBITION SEEKS TO DEMONSTRATE THAT WEST BERLIN IS A PART OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY THROUGH THE PARTICIPATION OF NUMEROUS WEST EUROPEAN MINISTERS AND BY THE SHOWING OF EXHIBITS FROM A

LARGE NUMBER OF WEST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AS IF WEST BERLIN BELONGED TO THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. WITH THE SAME PURPOSE IN MIND, RADIO MOSCOW CHARGES, THREE COMMITTEES OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT HELD MEETINGS AT THE REICHSTAG. RADIO MOSCOW CONCLUDED BROADCAST WITH THE CHARGE THAT NONE OF THESE EVENTS REFLECTS THE SPIRIT OF THE "FOUR POWER WEST BERLIN AGREEMENT" WHICH RADIO MOSCOW DELCARES, STATES THAT WEST BERLIN IS NOT A PART OF THE "FRG OR THE EC."

3. THE FULL GERMAN TEXT OF THE RADIO MOSCOW BROADCAST AS MONITORED BY RIAS IN WEST BERLIN IS BEING POUCHED TO BONN, WASHINGTON AND MOSCOW.

4. AT 1730 JANUARY 30, FIVE SOVIET SOLDIERS GATECRASHED THE MAIN ENTRANCE AT GREEN WEEK AND REMAINED STANDING INSIDE THE LOBBY FOR APPROXIMATELY 15 MINUTES. THE PRESENCE OF THE FIVE SOLDIERS WAS NOTICED BY LARGE NUMBERS OF GREEN WEEK VISITORS WHO WERE LEAVING THE EXHIBITION WHICH NORMALLY CLOSES OVER THE DINNER HOUR. ACCORDING TO REPORTS WE RECEIVED, NUMEROUS VISITORS LEAVING THE HALL USED ABUSIVE LANGUAGE TOWARD THE SOVIETS, AND IT WAS NECESSARY FOR AN OFFICIAL OF THE AMK TO HELP QUIET SOME OF THEM DOWN.

5. COMMENT. THE SOVIETS HAVE LONG OBJECTED TO FRG SPONSORSHIP OF THE GREEN WEEK IN BERLIN, AND HAVE OFTEN COMPLAINED TO US ABOUT IT IN PRIVATE. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME IN RECENT MEMORY, HOWEVER, THAT THEY HAVE GONE
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PUBLIC WITH THEIR PROTESTS. IT IS NOT SURPRISING THAT THEY OBJECTED TO FRG AGRICULTURE MINISTER ERTL OPENING THE GREEN WEEK, EVEN THOUGH THE GREEN WEEK HAS BEEN OPENED BY THE FRG AGRICULTURE MINISTER EVERY YEAR SINCE THE FAIR WAS RESUMED AFTER WORLD WAR II. NOR IS IT SURPRISING THAT RADIO MOSCOW COMPLAINED ABOUT THE EC PRESENCE EVIDENCED AT THE GREEN WEEK. THE RADIO MOSCOW FORMULATION THAT THE QA PROVIDES THAT BERLIN IS NOT A PART OF EITHER THE FRG OR THE EC IS NEW. THE SOVIET PATROL ACTION SEEMS TO BE A CONTINUATION OF SIMILAR PROVOCATIVE ATTENTIONS WHICH SOVIET PATROLS NOW INCREASINGLY PAY TO FRG AND EC MEETINGS WHICH THEY DISLIKE.
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